

Abstract

This invention relates to novel composites comprising plastic and plant material derived from members of *Parthenium* spp. and, in particular, *Parthenium argentatum* (also known as guayule), *Parthenium tomentosum* or *Parthenium incanum*. The invention is also directed to composites that possess insect, fungal, and microbial resistance. Products made from composites of the instant invention are useful to make numerous items, particularly those used for construction such as lumber, plywood, particleboard, fiberboard, poles, railroad crossties, or the like.

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